Atty Docket: BLFR 1007-1

Application No. 09/905,255

REMARKS

Pending in the present application are claims 1-55. Claims 1-27 are rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claims 1-55 are rejected under 102(e) as being anticipated by Cessna et al (USP 6,510,420). The rejections are respectfully traversed without amendment of the claims.

The Examiner needs to read this, the interview summary faxed on 6 January 2006 and the response filed on 5 April 2005, as this response does not repeat the material in the other documents. Also accompanying this supplemental response is an IDS that discloses release dates for particular features that are aggregated in this application, which claims priority to several other applications. Applicants urge that the claims of priority readily overcome any issues raised by the IDS.

Following our interview of 6 October 2005 and working with Examiner David Vincent to revive the application from abandonment, Applicants have amended the independent claims.

Amended claim 1 now distinguishes between projection and simulation.

Demand is projected; inventory and sales are simulated. What formerly was the first element has become part of the preamble, where it recites an environment instead of a positive limitation, effectively broadening the claim. Three elements have collapsed into one element, potentially broadening the claim in some respects. Transaction pricing introduced an unnecessary layer of abstraction, as the transactions were sales of items. Now, items are referred to without the transaction abstraction.

Similarly, amended claim 28 now distinguishes between projection and simulation. Three elements have collapsed into one element, potentially broadening the claim in some respects.

With simulation and projection distinguished, the claims easily distinguish over the art of record.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims, as stated herein, are in condition for allowance and solicit acceptance of the claims, in light of these remarks. If the Examiner disagrees and sees amendments that might facilitate allowance of the claims, a call to the undersigned would be appreciated.

If a telephone conference would assist in resolving any issues, the undersigned can normally be reached in his office at (650) 712-0340, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. through 5:30 p.m. PST, and at his cell phone at (415 902-6112 most other times.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 17 January 2006

Registration No. 43,489

HAYNES BEFFEL & WOLFELD LLP P.O. Box 366 Half Moon Bay, CA 94019

Telephone: (650) 712-0340 Facsimile: (650) 712-0263